GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:225
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2007
WAITING LIST FOR BSNL SIM CARDS
Prasad Shri Hari Kewal

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for obtaining pre-paid SIM Cards lying pending with the BSNL in the country especially in Uttar Pradesh, location-wise;

(b) the time by which SIM Cards will be available for the consumer;

(c) the reasons for delay in making SIM Cards available to them; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide SIM Cards on demand?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) Sir, number of applications for obtaining prepaid SIM cards lying pending with the BSNL in the country is 3608. However, pendency in Uttar Pradesh is Nil.

(b) SIM cards are available on demand in all circles except Manipur and Nagaland States of NE-II circle due to capacity constraints where these are likely to be available by January, 2008.

(c) & (d) Though SIM cards are available in Manipur and Nagaland states of NE-II circle, however these are not being distributed as the network capacity in the states is exhausted. Expansion of network capacity in these states is in progress and it is likely to be available by January, 2008.